

discount to Americans whose household income is at or below twice the Federal poverty level or those enrolled in SNAP, Medicaid, Supplemental Security Income, or a number of other programs, making them eligible for the Affordable Connectivity Program. Now, around 4 in 10 households qualify for this new discount. That is nearly 40 percent of American households.

Just this week, President Biden announced a new partnership with 20 leading internet providers to offer \$30 plans. Combined with the internet discount, these offerings will make internet effectively free for millions of Americans. This is the infrastructure law in action.

WISHING VELETER MAZYCK A HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Ms. BROWN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I also rise today to wish my chief of staff, Veleter Mazyck, a very happy birthday. I pray that it is filled with all of the people and things she loves most and that it may be as amazing as she is. We wish her many, many more.

□ 1115

#### RAMIFICATIONS OF AMERICA'S ENERGY POLICY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA) for 5 minutes.

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, it is a fairly common phrase amongst truckers and other people that use things that if you have got it, a truck brought it. That is really very, very true in all of our lives because it underlines really the importance of diesel fuel to everybody and everything that we use.

For example, a farmer doesn't get the seed, the fertilizer, the inputs unless a truck has brought that to their farm; they are bringing the fuel for the tractors, they are bringing the seed, they are bringing the fertilizer.

Then when the farmer is done growing that, the truck hauls it away to the processing center. Then the processing center mills that rice, mills that wheat, turns that product into something that is then trucked to the store shelves, where you go get it.

This ripples through all aspects of the things that we use, things that are produced in this country: By a miner, by a timber faller, what have you. There is a supply chain and an energy chain that runs all the way through. It is essential that we understand that at this time when the Biden administration is making it more and more difficult, nearly impossible to produce new petroleum products in this country.

Instead, we are hell-bent on this direction of saying we are going to electrify everything. Okay. That sounds nice on its surface, but what is the real cost? What is the real effect?

Electrifying all vehicles by X year, that is the goal. They are trying to push that in California. Well, in my

home State of California, for example, we can hardly keep the lights on as it is.

At the same time, they are trying to tear out dams, like up on the Klamath River, that produce hydroelectric power, which is CO<sub>2</sub>-free, since everybody is into that. They want to remove that. They are also scheduled to take out the nuclear power plant down near San Luis Obispo, which produces by itself 10 percent of the electricity that Californians use. One power plant, 10 percent. They want to just take that offline and make up 10 percent somehow by eliminating those two nuclear reactors.

Now, thankfully, there are folks starting to look at that a little bit differently as the crisis becomes more and more obvious to more people in my home State of California, but energy across the country as well. My understanding is our Governor has finally woken up to the idea that maybe we need to keep Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant.

And now the Energy Secretary in the Biden administration has looked at that a little bit, too. Maybe a little common sense will come around on shutting down that plant, and maybe we can apply that to hydroelectric plants since they seem to want to tear every dam out, whether it is in northern California or up in the State of Washington, at a time when electricity is becoming a bigger crunch in my home State.

Indeed, they are constantly telling us, turn off the lights, turn up your cooling in the summer so your house is warmer. Don't run your appliances until 9 or 10 p.m. or way early in the morning. These are all nice steps we can take, but we have been put in this place because of lack of planning because of too much regulation on being able to generate more power.

This all has its roots in what the Biden administration policy is by getting rid of the dams or making it so difficult through the FERC relicensing process. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission adds all these pieces that have nothing to do with generating power, making sure it is safe to do so. They have to deed away a piece of property for some environmental purpose or send kids to camp or something like that that has nothing to do with generating power. All it does is make your power more scarce or more expensive.

But we are going to learn all these things, aren't we? As the government takes away power, takes away the ability to make power, the prices go up, and we have more blackouts. For crying out loud, because of our forestry policy or lack of, we can't trim the trees around the power lines like we need to in order to ensure the power can stay on all the time.

What we have in California now is these so-called public safety power shutoffs if the wind blows because a tree branch might blow into a power

line and cause an outage, which makes a great big fire; such as the Dixie fire we had last year in northern California, right under a million acres because a healthy looking tree fell into a power line. Now, they love to blame utilities on that, but really forest policy plays a major role in these blackouts and these fires.

We have to do much more because if we want to have an energy policy, we want to have electricity that comes from somewhere, then we have to have the ability to transmit it safely, and not just shut it off like some Third World country because the wind blows. I mean, it is ridiculous.

We need a petroleum policy in this country that continues to supply what we have and make our system, our supply chain work. It isn't working very well right now, because in my home State, \$5.50 gasoline is common, \$6 diesel is common. It wasn't that way just 1½ years ago, and it doesn't have to be that way. Sound policy will deliver us from these high prices.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 19 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MRVAN) at noon.

#### PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Holy God, evening, morning, and noon Your people in Ukraine cry out in distress. Hear their voices from the wreckage of their homes and cities. Give heed to those ravaged by war's destruction. Listen for them from the pits of their hiding places.

Rescue them from the battle waged around and against them. Attend to the children who have lost their parents and tremble in fear. Comfort the men and women who grieve the death of their loved ones and are anxious in their forced separation from their families. Uphold the country's leaders and all who battle relentlessly in defense of their homeland and who defend their country's future against all who dare to oppose its sovereignty and seek to destroy its peace.

Eternal God, You have reigned forever and ever, bring Your justice to bear against the wicked. Answer those cries of the oppressed. Sustain those who cast their desperate cares before You. Let not the righteous be shaken.

Let all who call to You this day trust in You and find hope in Your salvation.